Control of automobile pollution is being enforced by the State Transport Departments of various States under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (as amended in 1988)

The Central Pollution Control Board has notified standards for ambient air quality and standards for emissions from major categories of air polluting industries These are implemented by the State Pollution Control Boards

(c) The measures taken and proposed by Government to prevent and control pollution in the major cities include the following

(i) The CPCB monitors the ambient air quality of various cities, towns and industrial pockets through a network of ambient air quality monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (NAAQM) Programme In Delhi a total of 10 ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up The data forms the basis for the analysis of the quality of air in the different regions against the prescribed limits

(ii) A major survey was carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) regarding the pollution caused by automobiles in the major cities and towns in the country The findings of the survey have been used for the preparation of measures for control as well as abatment of vehicular pollution in the major cities

(iii) Effluent and emission standards for major sectors of air and water polluting industries have been notified Industries have been directed to comply with the prescribed standards with a given time frame

(iv) Gross and mass emission standards for all categories of vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1939 and are being enforced by the Departments of Transport of the various States

(v) The Transport Department of the Government of Delhi has launched a major awareness campaign on the health effects resulting from vehicular pollution and the maintenance measures and punitive action for its control A total of 38 42 lakh vehicles have been checked by the Transport Department of Government of Delhi between March 1990 and June 1995 A major "Enforcement Drive" was also launched during May-September 1995 A total of 5 20 lakh vehicles availed of the pollution check facilities

(vi) Lead level in the petrol is planned to be reduced to a maximum of 0 15 grams per litre by December, 1996 in the petrol to be supplied throughout the country

(vii) A major programme for introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converters fitted in the four-wheeler petrol vehicles is under implementation in a phased manner In the first phase, which came into effect from 1 4 95, unleaded petrol was introduced in the four metros of Delhi Bombay, Calcutta and Madras for new fourwheeler petrol vehicles The programme will be extended to cover all the major metros in the country by December 1998

(viii) Steps have been initiated to introduce compressed natural gas in petrol driven vehicles in some of the cities.

(ix) A scheme for setting up common effluent treatment plants in clusters of small scale industrial units is under operation

(x) The National River Action Plan has been formulated to clean up the polluted stretches of major rivers covering the municipalities of major cities and towns The Ganga Action Plan in the second phase includes the cleaning up of the River Yamuna The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have a major programme for augmentation of sewage treatment plants in Delhi

(xi) The Central Pollution Control Board has evolved a code of practices for control of noise from sources other than industries These include public address system, aircraft operation, railway operation, construction operation and bursting of crackers

Research, Design and Standards Organisation

781 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the total strength of engineers in the Mechnical Deptt of Research Design and Standards Organisation engaged in the development of Motive Power Wagons Coach and EMU DMU development and annual operating cost of these departments

(b) the cost of technology transfer from foreign countries in regard to Diesel locomotives Electric Locomotives, Bogies for Locomotives Bogies for Wagon and other related components

(c) whether Railways have been buying technology from countries at huge cost while we have a large strength of engineers in RDSO for such technology

(d) why the speed of goods trains is about 25 KMPH and the steps taken by RDSO to improve it and

(e) the financial implication of a high speed train and low speed train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) is a multi-disciplinary organisation engaged in research, design and standardisation in various facets of Railway working. A total of 112 Group 'A' and Group 'B' staff of various Directorates are engaged in the work associated with development of motive power, wagons, coaches and Electric Multiple Units/Diesel Multiple Units The annual operating cost for these Directorates/functions is Rs. 10.2 cr.

(b) The cost of recent technology transfers entered into by Indian Railways are 9.2 million SF and 19.2 milllion OM for electric locomotives and US $17.5 million for diesel locomotives over a 10 year period

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The present average speed of goods trains (BG) on Indian Railways is of the order 23 Kmph. Railways as well as RDSO have been making efforts to improve the average speed of goods trains through various measures which include, amongst others, development and introduction of higher capacity locos and freight stock fit for 100 Kmph, introduction of modern turnouts etc.

(e) For the present, Railways do not plan to introduce a high-speed train (160 Kmph).

Kolhapur Railway Station

782. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether requests for bringing Kolhapur Railway Station under administrative control of the Pune Division have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken on these requests so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). A number of requests have been received for bringing Kolhapur-Miraj-Pune section of South Central Railway under the administrative control of Central Railway

Proposals for territorial readjustments between zones and divisions is under finalisation.

Car-Shed at Asansol Station

783 SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the work relating to setting up to proposed car-shed at Asansol station has been started; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Trains

784. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of South bound trains from the National Capital proposed to be cancelled during the current monsoon season;

(b) the efforts made to minimise passengers grievances due to such cancellations,

(c) whether any special trains were introduced during this year's Summer Vacation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). None. During monsoon, trains are cancelled to the minimum extent only when track bridges, OHE supply, etc. are affected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Three special trains were run from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Madras in May, 1996

[Translation]

Girideeh to Ranchi Line

785. SHRI R L P VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether a survey to construct railway line from Girideeh to Ranchi via Kodarama-Hazaribagh town (295 km.) has been conducted several times from 1978 to 1991;

(b) whether Government are aware that funds for construction of this line were not included in the Railway Budget of 1991; and

(c) if so, whether any provision is proposed to be made in the Railway Budget for 1996-97 for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) A survey was done in 1986 and was updated in 1991 The project was referred to Planning Commission who did not approve the same, as such the work was not sanctioned.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.